

OST-98-4775

47654

# **Always Travel, Inc.**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

98 DEC -4 PM 1:27

DOCKET SECTION 23, 1998

4317 Hills & Dales Road NW  
Canton, Ohio 44708  
(330) 477-3685 fax  
(330) 477-2929 phone

OST-98-4775-20

The Honorable Ralph Regula  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Regula:

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and a manager of a travel agency.:

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet.. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can overcharge the consumer at will.

I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their 800 numbers and the Internet. The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information on airfares readily available to them. We, the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems. Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

*Dorothy Weaver, CTC*

Dorothy Weaver, CTC  
Manager  
ALWAYS TRAVEL, INC.

***Always Travel, Inc. A full service agency***  
*Did 477-AWAY*

OST-98-4775  
**GREENFIELD**

**FABRICATING INC.**

P. O. BOX 8859 • CANTON, OHIO 44711-8859 • (330) 499-6770  
FAX (330) 499-0881

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

98 DEC -4 PM 1:27

DOCKET SECTION

November 24, 1998

The Honorable Ralph Regula  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative Regula:

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel **agent** from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result **in the** consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which **clearly** illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can overcharge the consumer at will.

I am deeply concerned about **what** the airlines are **doing** to force the traveling public to deal directly with **them** through their 800 numbers and the Internet. The airlines do not want the public to have **sources** of unbiased **information** on airfares readily available to them. We, the **travel** agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's **marketplace** with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems... Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

*Dawn E. Tyburk*

Dawn E. Tyburk  
Owner  
ALWAYS TRAVEL, INC.



TRAVEL SERVICE, INC.  
CORPORATE OFFICE

5931 South 87th E. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Tulsa, OK 74145

ST-98-4775



98 DEC -4 PM 1:28

DUCKET SECTION

November 24, 1998

The Honorable Samuel D. Brownback  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 205 10

Dear Senator Brown back,

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100.00 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20 television program which clearly illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their 800 numbers and the Internet. The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information on airfares readily available to them. We, the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems. Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

*Bobbie R. Needham*

Bobbie R. Needham, President  
Travel Service, Inc.  
309 W. 11th Street  
Coffeyville, KS 673.37



315-337-0560  
FAX: 315-336-4101

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
98 DEC -4 PM 1:28  
DOCKET SECTION

5 10 ERIE BLVD. WEST., ROME NY 13440

OST-98-4775  
MAGELLAN  
BUS TOURS



315-337-2400  
FAX: 315-336-4101

November 1998

The Honorable Sherwood Boehlert  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Boehlert:

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of ~~yours and~~ an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently **confirmed** in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their **800** numbers and the Internet. The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information on **airfares** readily available to them. We, the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and **unbiased** comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems. Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

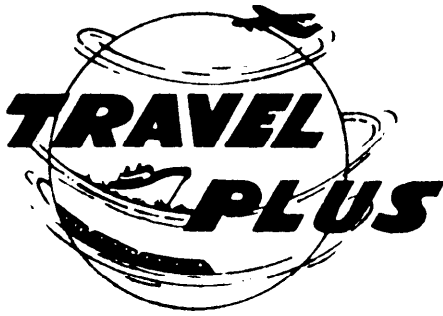
Sincerely,

ROME TRAVEL BUREAU, INC.

Robert S. Grimaldi  
President

cc: Attorney General  
Secretary of Transportation

OST-98-4775



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

98 DEC -4 PM 1:28

DOCKET SECTION

5580 North Federal Highway

Boca Raton, FL 33487

(561) 241-1770

November 23, 1998

The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

Honorable Rodney Slater:

I am writing this letter as an owner of a travel agency.

The most recent decision of some of our major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just another step in a long line of steps to drive travel agents out of business. If they succeed, consumers will have no choice but to deal with airlines **airrectly** through their 800 numbers and wait on hold forever or to use cyberspace. This will drive the price of airline tickets even higher than they are today. The recent "20/20" television show clearly proved this point.

I am very concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal with them directly. We, the travel agents, are the only one who provide the consumer with unbiased comparative fare and schedule information.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace and their control over the computer reservation systems. I, also, am concerned about how many future cuts in commission they are going to be allowed and how many travel agencies will be forced to close their businesses because the commissions allowed by the airlines are not commensurate with the work involved. Travel agencies are being forced to charge service fees but this doesn't put us on a level playing field with the airlines.

We need help.

Sincerely,

*Charlene Oberman*  
Charlene Oberman  
President

OST-98-4775

# Avenir Travel & Adventures

2029 Sidewinder Drive, Suite One • P. O. Box 2730 • Park City, Utah 84060  
435-649-2495 • 1-800-367-3230 • Fax 435-649-1192

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
98DEC-4 PM 1:28  
DOCKET SECTION

November 24, 1998

The Honorable Robert Bennett  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bennett,

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and as an owner of a Park City travel agency.

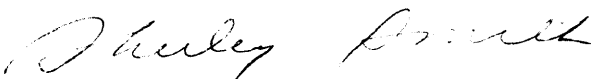
The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you remove the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the customer at will.

I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their 800 numbers and the Internet. It appears the airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information readily available to them. We, the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems.

We ask that you please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

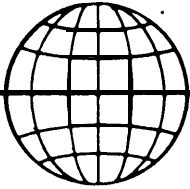


Shirley Smith,  
Owner

cc: The Honorable Janet Reno- Attorney General  
The Honorable Rodney Slater- Secretary of Transportation

EST- 98- 4775

OUR ADVICE IS PRICELESS



**TRAVEL  
KING**



8044 Montgomery Road, Suite 125  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236  
(513) 793-1461

November 23, 1998

The Honorable Rob Portman  
United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 205 10

Dear Representative Portman,

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of United Airlines, followed by Delta and American, to cap commissions at \$100.00 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you remove the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

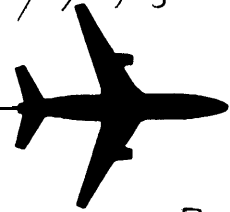
I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their 800 numbers and in the Internet. The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information on airfares readily available to them. We, the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems. Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of the airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely yours,

Frances C. Gentry  
Owner

cc. - ASTA  
The Honorable Janet Reno  
The Honorable Rodney Slater

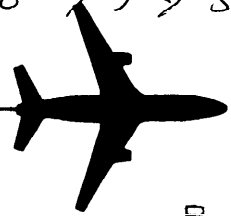


DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
98 DEC -4 PM 1:29  
DOCKET SECTION

OST-98-4775



OUR ADVICE IS PRICELESS



8044 Montgomery Road, Suite 125  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236  
(513) 793-1461

November 23, 1998

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

98EC-4 PM 1:30

DOCKETS SECTION

The Honorable Rob Portman  
United States

House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 205 10

Dear Representative Portman,

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of United Airlines, followed by Delta and American, to cap commissions at \$100.00 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you remove the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

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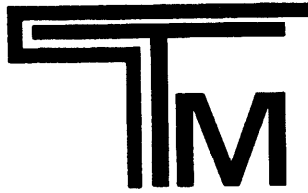
The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems. Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of the airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely yours,

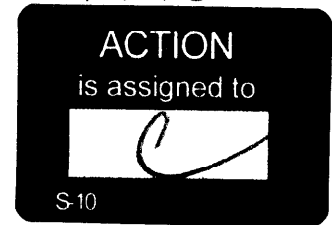
Lee M. Gentry  
Owner

cc. - ASTA  
The Honorable Janet Reno  
The Honorable Rodney Slater





OST-98-4775



November 23, 1998

The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
98DEC-4 PM 1:31  
DOCKET SECTION

Dear Secretary Slater,

I am writing to you as a travel agency owner.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is the most recent step in the airlines all-out assault to force the travel agent from the marketplace. The consumer will have no choice but to deal directly with the airlines and this will ultimately result in the consumer paying more for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed on the "20/20" television program which clearly demonstrated that when the travel agent was not involved, the airlines over charged the consumer at will.

The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information. The travel agent is the only one who provides the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply adds to the concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems.

Please take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices by the airlines which harm the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

Eddi Harwin

MEMBER

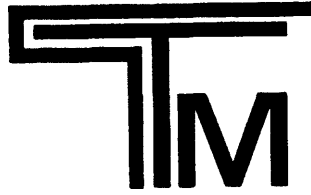


TOTAL TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

333 Earl Ovington Blvd. • Suite LL 10 • Uniondale, N. Y. 11553

Tel. (516) 222-9229 Fax (516) 222-9242

Integrity in Travel



OST-98-4775

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

98 DEC -4 PM 1:31

DOCKET SECTION

November 23, 1998

**The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590**

**Dear Secretary Slater,**

**I am writing to you as a travel agency owner.**

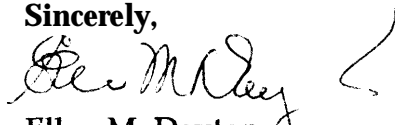
**The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is the most recent step in the airlines all-out assault to force the travel agent from the marketplace. The consumer will have no choice but to deal directly with the airlines and this will ultimately result in the consumer paying more for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed on the "20/20" television program which clearly demonstrated that when the travel agent was not involved, the airlines over charged the consumer at will.**

**The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information. The travel agent is the only one who provides the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.**

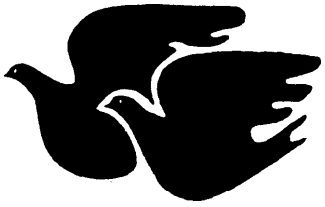
**The airlines' new commission policy simply adds to the concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems.**

**Please take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices by the airlines which harm the travel consumer.**

**Sincerely,**

  
**Ellen M. Dayton**

OST-98-4775



## Forum Travel, Ltd.

4609 Winthrop Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
(412) 681-4099 (800) 888-4099  
FAX: (412) 687-6766 E-Mail: [forumtv1@igc.apc.org](mailto:forumtv1@igc.apc.org)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

98 DEC -4 PM 1:31

DOCKET SECTION

November 24, 1998

The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary of Transportation Slater,

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their 800 numbers and the Internet. The airlines do not want the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fare and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fire of concern about the lack of the airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservation systems. Please take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

Scilla Wahrhaftig



THE TRAVEL BUG OF BATTLE CREEK

TRAVEL BUG OF BATTLE CREEK, INC.  
1950 W. COLUMBIA  
SUITE C  
BATTLE CREEK, MI 49015

OST-98-4775  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
98 DEC -4 PM 1:31  
DOCKET SECTION

November 25, 1998

The Honorable Spencer Abraham  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Abraham: .

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commissions at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 numbers and the Internet. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

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## THE TRAVEL BUG OF BATTLE CREEK

TRAVEL BUG OF BATTLE CREEK, INC.

1950 W. COLUMBIA

SUITE C

BATTLE CREEK, MI 49015

computer reservation systems. Please write the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

John A. V'Soske  
Owner/Manager  
(616) 964-7688

jav

cc Hon Janet Reno  
Hon Rodney Slater